

We claim:

Claim 1. A computer system based method of analyzing an electronic document that includes text and graphics and in which common reference symbols designate text components and respective graphics components, the method comprising processing the document text into an index that identifies the text locations of reference symbols processing the document graphics into an index that identifies the graphic locations of reference symbols, and displaying the text that includes at least some of the text reference symbols or displaying at least some of the graphic reference symbols, and linking the common text and common graphic reference symbols such that user selection of a particular text reference symbol or graphic reference symbol causes display of a respective graphic segment or text segment that includes the selected common reference symbol.

Claim 2. The method according to Claim 1 wherein each graphic reference symbol includes one or a combination of number(s), letter(s), and word(s).

Claim 3. The method according to Claim 1 wherein each text reference symbol includes one or a combination of number(s), letter(s), and word(s).

Claim 4. The method according to Claim 1 wherein each text reference symbol includes one or a combination of number(s), letter(s), and word(s) and each graphic symbol includes one or a combination of number(s), letter(s), and word(s) and wherein each common text and graphic reference symbol includes the same one or a combination of number(s), letter(s), and word(s) respectively.

Claim 5. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising,

highlighting displayed text reference symbols which are linked to graphic reference symbols.

Claim 6. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising,

highlighting displayed graphic reference symbols which are linked to text reference symbols.

Claim 7. The method according to Claim 5 further comprising,

displaying all corresponding graphic segments in response to user selection of a particular displayed text reference symbol and wherein each corresponding graphic

segment includes the reference symbol common to said selected text reference symbol.

Claim 8. The method according to Claim 5 further comprising,

displaying the locations or sheet numbers of corresponding graphic segments in response to user selection of a particular displayed text reference symbol and wherein each corresponding graphic segment includes the reference symbol common to said selected text reference symbol.

Claim 9. The method according to Claim 8 further comprising,

displaying the corresponding graphic segment in response to user selection of a particular displayed reference symbol location or sheet number.

Claim 10. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising,

highlighting displayed graphic reference symbols which are linked to text reference symbols.

Claim 11. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising,

highlighting displayed text reference symbols which are linked to graphic reference symbols.

Claim 12. The method according to Claim 10 further comprising,

displaying all corresponding text segments in response to user selection of a particular displayed graphic reference symbol and wherein each corresponding text segment includes the reference symbol common to said selected graphic reference symbol.

Claim 13. The method according to Claim 10 further comprising,

displaying the corresponding text segments in response to user selection of a particular displayed graphic reference symbol and wherein each corresponding text segment includes the reference symbol common to said selected graphic reference symbol.

Claim 14. The method according to Claim 13 further comprising,

displaying the corresponding text segment and preceding and following text thereof in response to user selection of a particular displayed text segment.

Claim 15. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising,

displaying a list that includes the text identities of components and the reference symbol associated with each text component.

Claim 16. The method of Claim 15 wherein the list is arranged in alphabetical order of component text identities or in order of the reference symbol associated with each text component.

Claim 17. The method of Claim 15 wherein each component text identity comprises a noun group.

Claim 18. The method of Claim 15 wherein user selection of a component text identity in the displayed list causes display of a text segment that includes the selected component text identity.

Claim 19. The method of Claim 18 wherein the full document text displayed is forward/backward scrollable by user command.

Claim 20. The method of Claim 18 wherein the list, graphic, and text are displayed in separate windows the area of which windows are variable by user command.

Claim 21. The method of Claim 1 further comprising synthesizing a user selected text segment or the sentence in which a user selected text segment appears, and converting the synthesized text segment or sentence into an audible segment or sentence audible to the user.

Claim 22. The method of Claim 21 wherein the graphic is displayed during the time the audible segment or sentence is audible to user.

Claim 23. The method of Claim 1 wherein user selection includes user speaking an audible command and using voice recognition methods to convert the audible command into a digital computer instruction.

Claim 24. The method of Claim 1 wherein the displayed text segment is displayed as part of the document text and the displayed document text is scrollable, fore and aft, in response to user command.

Claim 25. The method of Claim 24 wherein the user display includes at least two windows, a text window and a graphics window, and the selected and displayed text segment is initially displayed in the vertical mid-region of the text window.

Claim 26. The method of Claim 1 wherein the displayed graphic segment is displayed as part of the document graphic and the displayed document graphic is zoomable, inward and outward, in response to user command.

Claim 27. The method of Claim 24 wherein the user display includes at least two windows, a text window and a graphics window, and the selected and displayed graphic segment is initially displayed in the vertical mid-region of the graphic window.

Claim 28. The method of Claim 8 wherein said locations or sheet numbers are displayed in a sub-window.

Claim 29. The method of Claim 13 wherein said corresponding text segments are displayed in a sub-window.

Claim 30. The method of Claim 1 further including displaying simultaneously the text segment and the graphic segment that include the selected common reference symbol.

Claim 31. The method of Claim 30 further including printing or storing in a separate file, the simultaneously representations of displayed text segment and graphic segment.

Claim 32. The method of Claim 1 further comprising storing the text locations of all sentences and word in the document.

Claim 33. The method of Claim 32 further comprising synthesizing the sentence in which a predetermined word appears in response to user selection of said predetermined word, and converting the sentence into an audible series of words representing said sentence.

Claim 34. The method of Claim 33 wherein said user selection includes the user speaking a predetermined command and said predetermined word and, using voice recognition methods, converting the spoken predetermined command and said predetermined word into a digital computer instruction.

Claim 35. The method of Claim 34 wherein the predetermined word is or is not associated with a reference symbol.

Claim 36. Systems and methods as substantially disclosed herein.